

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

A 9 (Currently amended). A method ~~for isolating and identifying proteins, factors or receptors capable of binding to~~ MORT-1 polypeptide according to claim 20, further comprising applying the procedure of affinity chromatography in which said MORT-1 polypeptide is attached to ~~the~~ an affinity chromatography matrix, wherein said attached ~~protein~~ MORT-1 polypeptide is brought into contact with a cell extract, in said bringing into contact step and proteins, factors or receptors from the cell extract which bind to said attached ~~protein~~ polypeptide are then eluted, isolated and analyzed, ~~wherein said MORT-1 polypeptide comprises:~~

~~_____ (1) the MORT-1 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;~~

~~_____ (2) an analog of said MORT-1 protein which differs therefrom by a single amino acid residue and binds with the intracellular domain of the FAS ligand receptor (FAS-IC); or~~

~~_____ (3) a fragment of said MORT-1 protein which binds with FAS-IC.~~

10 (Currently amended). A method ~~for isolating and identifying proteins capable of binding to a MORT-1 polypeptide,~~ comprising according to claim 20, wherein said bringing into contact step comprises applying the yeast two-hybrid procedure in

which a sequence encoding said MORT-1 polypeptide is carried by one hybrid vector and sequence from a cDNA or genomic DNA library is carried by the second hybrid vector, the vectors then being used to transform yeast host cells and the positive transformed cells being isolated, followed by extraction of the said second hybrid vector to obtain a sequence encoding a protein which binds to said MORT-1 polypeptide wherein said MORT-1 polypeptide comprises:

_____ (1) the MORT-1 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

C _____ (2) an analog of said MORT-1 protein which differs therefrom by a single amino acid residue and binds with the intracellular domain of the FAS ligand receptor (FAS-IC); or

_____ (3) a fragment of said MORT-1 protein which binds with FAS-IC.

Claims 11-19 (Cancelled)

20 (New). A method for isolating and identifying polypeptides capable of binding to a MORT-1 polypeptide, comprising

bringing a polypeptide to be screened into contact with said MORT-1 polypeptide and

producing any polypeptide identified as being capable of binding to MORT-1, wherein said MORT-1 polypeptide comprises:

(1) the MORT-1 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

(2) an analog of said MORT-1 protein which differs therefrom by a single amino acid residue and binds with the intracellular domain of the FAS ligand receptor (FAS-IC); or

C (3) a fragment of said MORT-1 protein which binds with FAS-IC.
